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SECRETARIAT
OF
THE ODISHA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
NOTIFICATION

The 13th December, 2024

No.7748/L.A.— The following Bill, which has been introduced in the Odisha Legislative Assembly on the dated 6th December, 2024 is here with published under Rule-68 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Odisha Legislative Assembly for general information.

THE ODISHA PROHIBITION BILL, 2024
(BY RANENDRA PRATAP SWAIN, M.L.A)

**A
BILL**

**TO PROVIDE FOR AND ENSURE TOTAL PROHIBITION IN THE
ENTIRE STATE OF ODISHA AND TO INTRODUCE AND
EXTEND THE PROHIBITION OF THE MANUFACTURE,
SALE AND CONSUMPTION OF INTOXICATING
LIQUORS AND DRUGS IN THE STATE OF
ODISHA FOR MATTERS CONNECTED
THEREWITH.**

Whereas it is expedient as early as possible to bring about and extend the prohibition, except in respect of sacramental, medicinal, scientific, industrial and such like purposes, of the production, manufacture,

possession, export, import, transport, purchase, sale and consumption of intoxicating liquors and drugs in the State of Odisha.

BE it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Odisha in the Seventy-fifth year of the Republic of India as follows :—

Short title,
extent and
commence-
ment.

1. (i) This Act may be called the Odisha Prohibition Act, 2024.

(ii) It extends to the whole of the State of Odisha.

(iii) It shall come into force by notification on such date as the

State Government may notify in the *Odisha Gazette*, appoint.

Definition.

2. In this Act, unless otherwise requires,—

(a) “Foreigner” means person who is not the Citizen of India;

(b) “State Government” means Government of Odisha.

Imposition of
prohibition in
the State.

3. The State Government shall, with effect from the commencement of this Act, impose, ensure & enforce total prohibition in the State.

Banning of
manufacture
etc. of sale of
intoxicating
drinks and
alcohol
products.

4. No person shall manufacture, sell, purchase, distribute alcohol or other intoxicating drinks.

Punishment.

5. Any person found consuming alcohol or any other intoxicating drinks or violating the provisions of Section 3 shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years or with fine not exceeding rupees ten thousand or with both:

Provided that the provisions of this section shall not apply to foreigners and tourists visiting our State from outside the country and other States.

Power to
make rules.

6. The State Government may by notification in Official Gazette make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act subject to the proviso in Section 4.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Although great men like Buddha, Guru Nanak, Dayananda, Aviram Paramhansa, Gandhiji, Gopabandhu and Naba Krushana Choudhury fought against alcohol abuse, yet the consumption of liquor has been and is increasing day by day in our State and Country.

In pursuance of the Directive Principles of the State Policy in the Constitution of India the State should bring about prohibition of intoxicants. Prohibition is a measure of development and the Excise Act which is based on yield of revenue cannot be appropriate authority for administering prohibition. A prohibition Act is, thus, considered necessary.

In our State, the habit of drinking has been on the increase for the last so many years. Offering of drinks at parties and other social gatherings has become the fashion of the day. It is seen that drinking habits of a large number of people have spoiled their families and also affected their health adversely. Drinking of alcohol is responsible for many diseases and has also led to the increase in corruption in the country.

Due to intoxication and the drinking of alcohol the law and order situation is deteriorating day by day in our State and Country. Incidents of divorce, rape and molestation of women are on the increase. Motor vehicle accidents are also increasing. In most of these cases, consumption of liquor is found to be the main cause behind such mishaps. Liver, gastric and other health disorders are caused by liquor consumption. Liquor consumption does not merely create problems of physical health but also of mental, moral and social nature. A large number of deaths have occurred in the State due to consumption of alcohol. Drugs and alcohol related problems play havoc with the lives of rural poor and urban middle classes. It strikes the highest and the humblest. There is also a nexus between liquor mafia and unscrupulous politicians resulting in criminalisation of politics.

Therefore, it is high time that legislation is brought forward for imposing a total prohibition in our State in the first instance. Thereafter, others may also follow suit and impose total prohibition in their States and in the Country as a whole.

Hence this Bill.

RANENDRA PRATAP SWAIN

Member-in-charge

DASHARATHI SATAPATHY

OSD-CUM- SECRETARY

ODISHA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY